

[ **LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS NO. 576, July 18, 1977** ]

**INTENSIFYING DEVELOPMENT OF AND CREATING A  
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR LEYTE AND  
SAMAR.**

TO: Secretary, Department of National Defense  
Secretary, Department of Local Government and  
Community Development  
Secretary, Department of Health  
Secretary, Department of Public Works,  
Transportation and Communications  
Secretary, Department of Social Services Development  
Secretary, Department of Public Highways  
Secretary, Department of Natural Resources  
Secretary, Department of Agriculture  
Secretary, Department of Agrarian Reform  
Secretary, Department of Trade  
Secretary, Department of Public Information  
Secretary, Department of Labor  
Secretary, for PANAMIN

WHEREAS, recent developments in Leyte and Samar indicate a deteriorating peace and order condition which adversely affects national security;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to contain the spread of insurgency in the area by building up, through joint security/development efforts, an action plan designed to provide security in affected areas and the conduct of massive long-range infrastructure development in unaffected areas; and

WHEREAS, the active cooperation and participation of various government agencies require close coordination and integration of their efforts for maximum result;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and direct:

1. That a massive, coordinated and sustained inter-agency development program for Leyte and Samar be immediately undertaken;
2. That construction of infrastructure projects be initiated and/or accelerated like roads and bridges, airports, ports and harbors, school houses, hydro-electric plants and such other development projects geared toward enhancing socio-economic uplift of the people in the area;
3. That income generating NACIDA-type and fishpond projects be initiated with the assistance of the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) and other lending institutions in terms of loans.
4. That in order to insure concerted and sustained efforts participating and co-operating agencies, a Development Coordinating Council charged with policy, planning and implementation is hereby created composed of the following members:

Undersecretary for Home

—Coordinator